

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: Chair Jeff Essmann, on March 13, 2015 at 8:00 AM, in Room 455 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Jeff Essmann, Chair (R)
Rep. Bill Harris, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Casey Schreiner, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Bob Brown (R)
Rep. Moffie Funk (D)
Rep. Frank Garner (R)
Rep. Edward Greef (R)
Rep. Denise Hayman (D)
Rep. Jessica Karjala (D)
Rep. Debra Lamm (R)
Rep. Forrest Mandeville (R)
Rep. Wendy McKamey (R)
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)
Rep. Jean Price (D)
Rep. Ray L. Shaw (R)
Rep. Kathy Swanson (D)
Rep. Susan Webber (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Bryce Bennett (D)
Rep. Austin Knudsen (R)
Rep. Art Wittich (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jennifer Petersen, Committee Secretary
Sheri Scurr, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 566, 2/25/2015; SB 169, 2/25/2015; SB 235, 2/25/2015

00:01:11 Chair Essmann, *hands gavel to Rep. B. Brown*
 00:01:26 Chair Brown

HEARING ON SB 283

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:11 Sen. John Brenden (R), SD 17, opened the hearing on SB 283, Revise laws related to constituent accounts for legislators.

EXHIBIT(sth52a01)

00:06:57 Chair Brown

Proponents' Testimony:

00:07:14 Sen. Hamlett (SD 15)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:07:39 Jonathan Motl, Commissioner of Political Practices (COPP)

EXHIBIT(sth52a02)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:11:42 Rep. Lamm
 00:12:03 Sen. Brenden
 00:12:20 Rep. Hayman
 00:13:30 Jonathan Motl, COPP
 00:13:51 Rep. Mandeville
 00:14:25 Jonathan Motl, COPP
 00:14:46 Rep. McKamey
 00:15:27 Jonathan Motl, COPP
 00:16:29 Rep. McKamey
 00:16:48 Sen. Brenden
 00:19:46 Rep. Essmann
 00:21:03 Jonathan Motl, COPP
 00:21:05 Rep. Essmann
 00:21:51 Jonathan Motl, COPP
 00:22:24 *Rep. B. Bennett arrives*
 00:22:28 Rep. Greef
 00:24:04 Jonathan Motl, COPP
 00:25:45 Rep. Funk
 00:26:32 Sen. Brenden
 00:27:14 Rep. Funk
 00:27:35 Sen. Brenden
 00:28:14 Vice Chair Harris
 00:28:43 Jonathan Motl, COPP
 00:29:14 Vice Chair Harris
 00:29:30 Jonathan Motl, COPP
 00:29:49 Vice Chair Harris

00:30:19 Jonathan Motl, COPP
00:31:35 Vice Chair Harris
00:32:04 Jonathan Motl, COPP
00:33:04 Vice Chair Schreiner
00:33:35 Jonathan Motl, COPP
00:33:53 Vice Chair Schreiner
00:34:08 Jonathan Motl, COPP
00:34:19 Vice Chair Schreiner
00:34:51 Sen. Brenden
00:35:54 Vice Chair Schreiner
00:36:28 Sen. Brenden
00:36:54 Rep. B. Bennett
00:37:42 Sen. Brenden
00:38:01 Rep. Price
00:38:30 Jonathan Motl, COPP
00:38:36 Rep. Price
00:38:51 Jonathan Motl, COPP
00:39:22 Rep. Karjala
00:39:44 Sen. Brenden
00:40:17 Rep. Karjala
00:41:19 Sen. Brenden
00:41:50 Rep. Karjala
00:43:22 Chair Brown
00:43:45 Rep. Karjala
00:44:23 Rep. Lamm
00:44:33 Rep. Karjala
00:44:37 Chair Brown
00:45:05 Jonathan Motl, COPP
00:46:38 Rep. Karjala
00:46:47 Chair Brown
00:47:11 Rep. Garner
00:47:49 Sen. Brenden
00:47:53 Rep. Garner
00:48:23 Sen. Brenden
00:48:35 Rep. Lamm
00:49:03 Jonathan Motl, COPP
00:49:18 Rep. Lamm
00:49:26 Jonathan Motl, COPP
00:49:41 Rep. Lamm
00:50:01 Jonathan Motl, COPP
00:50:13 Rep. Essmann
00:50:47 Jonathan Motl, COPP
00:50:56 Rep. Essmann
00:51:05 Jonathan Motl, COPP
00:51:21 Vice Chair Schreiner
00:51:47 Jonathan Motl, COPP
00:51:53 Vice Chair Schreiner
00:53:14 Sen. Brenden
00:54:25 Vice Chair Schreiner
00:55:05 Sen. Brenden

Closing by Sponsor:

00:56:17 Sen. Brenden
00:56:28 Chair Brown

HEARING ON SB 235

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:56:44 Sen. Kris Hansen (R), SD 14, opened the hearing on SB 235, Generally revise laws related to the courts.

EXHIBIT(ssth52a03)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:05:55 Beth McLaughlin, Court Administrator, Montana Supreme Court
01:06:15 *Rep. Wittich arrives*
01:07:24 Bruce Spencer, State Bar of Montana
01:08:12 Jim Brown, private practice attorney, self

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:09:42 Rep. B. Bennett
01:10:49 Sen. Hansen
01:14:15 Rep. Funk
01:14:55 Sen. Hansen
01:15:23 Rep. Wittich
01:16:52 Sen. Hansen
01:20:04 Rep. Wittich
01:21:10 Sen. Hansen
01:24:33 Rep. Lamm
01:24:59 Sen. Hansen
01:25:48 Beth McLaughlin, Montana Supreme Court

Closing by Sponsor:

01:28:07 Sen. Hansen
01:31:44 Chair Brown

HEARING ON SB 169

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:32:12 Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D), SD 15, opened the hearing on SB 169, Require special election for vacancy in the U.S. Senate or House.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:36:23 Greg Trude, State Director, Right to Life of Montana
01:39:33 Jim Brown, self

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:43:30 Rep. Funk
01:44:37 Jim Brown, self
01:45:15 Rep. Funk
01:45:39 Jim Brown, self
01:45:57 Rep. B. Bennett
01:46:36 Jim Brown, self
01:47:22 Rep. B. Bennett
01:47:59 Jim Brown, self
01:48:17 Rep. B. Bennett

Closing by Sponsor:

01:48:34 Sen. Hamlett
01:53:13 Chair Brown

HEARING ON SB 286

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:53:40 Sen. Cary Smith (R), SD 27, opened the hearing on SB 286, Limit agency rule making if it burdens property rights.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

01:57:13 Mark Cadwallader, Staff Attorney, Montana Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)
02:00:40 John North, Chief Legal Counsel, Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
02:08:52 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)
02:13:45 Leo Berry, Attorney, self
02:16:43 Shawn Graham, Executive Director, Teachers Retirement System (TRS)
02:18:46 Erin Farris-Olsen, Montana Smart Growth Coalition (MSGC)
02:19:57 Brian Bramblett, Attorney, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

[EXHIBIT\(sth52a04\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:24:36 Rep. Mandeville
02:25:16 Leo Berry, self

Closing by Sponsor:

02:25:46 Sen. Smith
02:31:08 Chair Brown

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 02:31:41

Jennifer Petersen, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([sth52aad.pdf](#))